

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 CU-02 SCCT-01 SS-15

NSC-05 SP-02 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 PA-01

/074 W

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R 161712Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0268

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 05764

PARIS ALSO FOR UNESCO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: AORG, PORG, UNESCO, UK, US

SUBJECT: PLO SEEKING PERMANENT OBSERVER STATUS AT
UNESCO

REF: STATE 80985, LONDON 5640

1. WE HAD ANOTHER DISCUSSION WITH FCO ACTING DIRECTOR
OF NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA DEPARTMENT WILLIAMS APRIL
15. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT BRITISH HAVE NO BRIGHT IDEAS
TO CONTRIBUTE ON WAYS TO HEAD OFF TUNISIAN INITIATIVE.
BRITISH WOULD EXPECT TO ABSTAIN ON QUESTION ONCE AGAIN.
WILLIAMS NOTED THERE IS LARGE AND GROWING CORPUS OF
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PRECEDENCE FOR BRITISH ABSTENTION ON SUCH QUESTIONS.

2. WE TOLD WILLIAMS THAT WE HAD REPORTED HIS PRELIMINARY REACTION WITH COMMENT THAT ABSTENTION IS LIKELY UNLESS DEPARTMENT FOUND WAY TO MAKE THE ISSUE CONSIDERABLY MORE IMPORTANT IN TOTAL PICTURE THAN IT NOW WAS BEING CONSIDERED BY FCO. WILLIAMS TOOK THE REMARK IN GOOD SPIRIT BUT INDICATED LITTLE LIKELIHOOD BRITISH WOULD CHANGE THEIR POSITION. HE NOTED POLITIZATION OF UN AGENCIES HAS ALREADY GONE A LONG WAY. BRITISH VIEW ABSTENTION AS WAY TO INDICATE BALANCE IN THEIR POLICY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND PALESTINIANS. UK IS NOT ANTI-PALESTINIAN AND TAKES CARE TO AVOID GESTURES WHICH MIGHT BE INTERPRETED THAT WAY.

SPIERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, MEETING OBSERVERS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, VOTING ABSTENTIONS
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Draft Date: 16 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: X1
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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Type: TE
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